

The Youth Advocate

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES

VOL. I, NO. 2

FEBRUARY, 1975



Pact Signed; Group Home Opens



Group Home Celebration

Mrs. Dewey Oxner receives a certificate of appreciation from Nicholas P. Mitchell III during the Greenville Group Home Opening celebration. Some 100 persons attended the ceremony. Mrs. Oxner represented the Junior League. Mr. Mitchell is a member of the Youth Services Board from Greenville.

Mrs. Harper Named To Board



Mrs. Lula F. Harper of Graniteville has been appointed to the Board of the Department of Youth Services.

She replaces Mrs. Juanita W. Goggins of Rock Hill, who was recently elected to the S. C. House of Representatives.

Mrs. Harper, mother of five children, is a teacher in remedial reading at Jefferson Junior High School in Bath. She is the wife of Leroy Harper, Sr., owner of an Aiken County trucking firm.

Mrs. Harper is president of the Voter Education Project of Aiken County and chairman of the Political Education Committee of the Aiken County Teachers Association.

Please Turn to Page 2

Can Agencies Find Happiness Under The Same Roof?

Can two agencies with different backgrounds find happiness under the same roof?

Walter Waddell, supervisor of the Spartanburg Regional Youth Bureau thinks so.

Sharing space in the Youth Bureau office is the Spartanburg County Association for Retarded Citizens. Mrs. Elaine Eilenberg, director, said that her agency had been under Youth Bureau's sheltered wing for a year, "and I just think it's the greatest."

"We work with all mentally retarded in Spartanburg County," said Mrs. Eilenberg. "We figured that's about 5,500 citizens. The national rate for retardates born to healthy parents is about three percent. In South Carolina it's six percent."

"Part of that reason is lack of prenatal care. There's no blood test required prior to marriage," Mrs. Eilenberg continued. "And the venereal disease rate is the highest in the nation. If the mother has VD, she may

Please Turn to Page 3

The S. C. Department of Youth Services has moved closer toward its goal of treating troubled youth in community based programs.

In January the Agency signed a first offender diversionary program with the Charleston County Family Court. It opened a group home in Greenville days later. Both projects are part of the Agency's Youth Bureau division.

Charleston County Family Court Judges James Craven, Robert R. Mallard and Richard E. Fields signed the agreement, as did Director Grady A. Decell for the Agency. The signing took place Jan. 14 in the Charleston County Council chambers. It was attended by county and state officials.

The group home opening occurred Jan. 26. Board Chairman Mrs. Barbara T. Sylvester and Greenville Board member Nicholas P. Mitchell III presented certificates of appreciation to representatives of the Youth Bureau Advisory Council, Junior League of Greenville and the Greenville County Council.

CHARLESTON COUNTY PROJECT

The Charleston County project is the second of its type in South Carolina. The first was in Columbia. The program's objective is to send first offenders to other agencies for treatment rather than to have them appear in a Family Court hearing. Court officials must feel it is in the child's and the court's best interest, however.

The program will work this way:

The Charleston County Family Court will screen first offenders and offer them the first offender program if they are eligible. If a child accepts the offer, he will be referred to the Youth Bureau for treatment. The Youth Bureau will conduct tests, analyze the results and begin a treatment program designed to correct the child's behavior.

After a specified period the Youth Bureau will submit a report of the youth's progress and a recommendation on the disposition of the case to the Charleston County Family Court.

"We anticipate great success with this program," said Decell. "It can help children develop attitudes, values, beliefs and behavioral patterns that are more acceptable to the community in which they live."

Decell also praised the Family Court "for joining us in this cooperative effort."

GREENVILLE GROUP HOME

A crowd estimated to be about 100 persons attended the group home opening in Greenville.

The dedication ceremony consisted of prayers by Rabbi Fred Raskind, Temple of Israel; the Rev. Cannon McCreary, Christ Episcopal Church; and the Rev. John H. Corbitt, Springfield Baptist Church. Leonard T. Lee, Regional Supervisor of the Greenville Youth Bureau, welcomed the group.

The Rev. McCreary's prayer included a unique walkthrough in which each phase of the home was dedicated, with prayer responses by those attending the celebration.

The Rev. Corbitt termed it "a home for all boys, giving them a second chance to be good citizens and good Americans."

Decell said he had "the most interested board in South Carolina. Group homes are a need we've seen. We're delighted to be in Greenville."

Accepting the certificates were W. D. Workman III, Youth Bureau Advisory Council; Mrs. Dewey Oxner, Junior League; and Shannon Lenning, Greenville County Council.

Please Turn to Page 4

From The Chaplain...

Not long ago the conversation at our house was centered on driving and about laws in our driving.

All the children knew what the "red light" indicated — stop!

All of them knew what the "green light" meant — go!

But they were not sure about what the "yellow light" stood for.

If you were ever close enough to a light that controls traffic you would see the word "stop" on the "red" lens. "go" on the "green," and "caution" on the "yellow."

Now, just what does caution mean? they wanted to know.

It has several meanings:

1. Be careful.

2. Get ready.

3. Watch out.

You know, life is somewhat like a traffic signal. We have our "red light," our stop, our indicators of danger.

We also have our "green lights," our go, our all-clear signals.

We also have our "yellow lights," a warning, a get ready, a proceed with watching out.

We are reminded of the "yellow signal" when we see a sign at the bus terminal or railroad station which reads, "watch your step." Frequently these words are printed black on a background of yellow.

The sign, "watch your step," does not mean watch the step or steps you have taken, but watch the step you plan to take.

Jesus had something to say about the "yellow light" of life. Read Mark, 13th Chapter, 31-37 verses. He said, "What I say unto you, I say unto all. Watch!"

Can Agencies (continued)

produce a mentally retarded child."

"We've had unbelievable cooperation with the Retarded Citizens program," said Waddell. "Mrs. Eilenberg works closely with the counselors who get kids classified as being mentally retarded."

Waddell cited a case in which a boy was enrolled in a Special Education program suited to his needs. "We acted as liaison in that case," said Waddell. "The

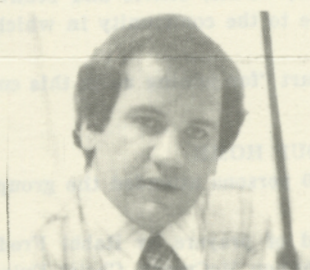


Mrs. Eilenberg

story had a happy ending."

Cooperation includes consulting on cases with a mutual interest, sharing information where it isn't against procedures or professional integrity, and working jointly for the best interest of the client, not the Agency.

"If I have a case that needs Youth Bureau help, I'll give them a call," Mrs. Eilenberg said. "It's a beautiful hand-in-hand operation."



Waddell

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This newsletter is printed by Youth Services students on the John G. Richards campus.

Mrs. Barbara A. Sylvester Chairman

Grady A. Decell Director

Edward B. Borden Editor



Charleston Signing

Charleston County Family Court Judge Richard E. Fields prepares to sign the pre-trial intervention agreement between the Family Court and the Youth Bureau division of the Agency. The program is designed to send children to other agencies rather than appear in a Family Court hearing. Observing the signing are Director Grady A. Decell, Associate Judge Robert R. Mallard and Judge James Graven.



Director Interviewed

Mrs. Pamela Rudecill, Life Style Editor for the Greenville News, interviews J. P. Neal, Deputy Director for Administrative Services. Mrs. Rudesill later wrote a full-page article on the Greenville Youth Bureau's Group Home.

Mrs. Harper (continued)

An 11-year teaching veteran in South Carolina, Mrs. Harper also taught in New York and Georgia. She is a graduate of S. C. State College, where she obtained a B.A. in Education, and she has done graduate work at the University of Long Island, Yeshiva University in New

York, and the University of South Carolina.

The five-member board oversees the operation of the Agency. Board members serve for five years.

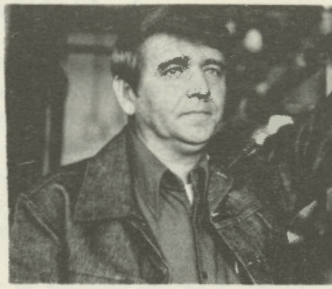
Mrs. Harper's term will end June 30, 1978.

Youth Services Agency Hip Deep in Cows, Pigs and Crops

Frank Furtick sat in the driver's seat of the farm truck and surveyed the curious cattle across the barbed wire fence. "We've got 544 acres here," the Farm Coordinator said, "and we've got another 400 at Florence."

The Agency is hip deep in cows, pigs and crops as a way of reducing food costs.

"I'm cultivating 290 acres of open land. We plant corn and soybeans as row crops. The corn goes for silage and dry harvest to feed cows and other stock. The soybeans are used for a cash crop and feed. We also grow small grain, such as wheat and oats. We harvest the wheat and carry it to a local mill where it is ground, then it goes back to the institutions for bread."



The cattle — holsteins, brown swiss and guernsies — are milked daily in the Agency's milk barn. "It's quite a sophisticated operation," said Furtick. "We've got automatic milkers here. The milk goes into holding tanks where it is analyzed and then processed, all without being touched by human hands."

Furtick said the farm "not only helped to provide nutritional meals for the students at

the institutions, but put \$18,000 back into the Agency's coffers. That's after salaries, expenses, repairs, feed, fertilizer and other items were taken out."

The farm not only provides food, it provides an education as well.

"We had over 3,000 children and teachers come out here last year and tour our farm," said Furtick. "Most of them were local, but we had some from quite some distance away. They were Head Start, kindergarten and grade school students. In some cases this is the only farm they've seen."

Furtick was "born and reared in Swansea." After attending Clemson he worked as farm foreman at the Sandhill Station in Columbia for 13 years. He was hired as farm manager of

the John G. Richards School and was promoted shortly to Farm Coordinator, where he has responsibilities over the entire grounds of the campuses at Columbia and Florence.

"This includes the grass and shrubbery at all institutions, as well as the entire farm operation," Furtick said.

But he wouldn't change his job, no matter how hectic it gets, he emphasized.

"I love it. Sometimes, in the evening, when I feel hassled, Shelby (his wife, who is an accountant with the Agency) and I will ride into the bottom land. There I'll park the truck under a cool shade tree. There's nothing more peaceful than stretching out and watching the corn grow, and listening to the river flow."

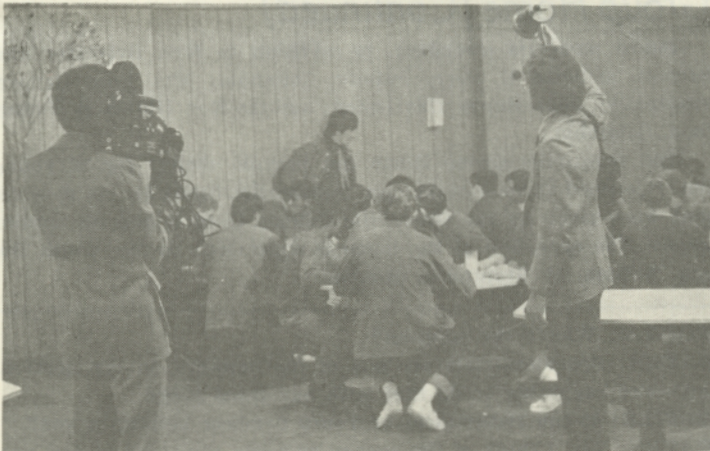
Jordan Selected Regional Supervisor

David W. Jordan of Fairmount, W. Va., has been named Regional Supervisor of the Charleston Youth Bureau, a division of the S.C. Department of Youth Services.

Jordan is a graduate of West Virginia University where he obtained a bachelor's degree in political science and sociology. He obtained an MA in counseling at Castleton State College in Vermont. Prior to his employ-



ment in South Carolina he was superintendent of the state correctional center in Woodstock, Vermont.



John G. Richards Highlighted

Newsmen from WIS-TV filmed a story on John G. Richards School in January, one of a growing number of such stories about the Agency. In recent months television, radio and the printed media have produced stories about people and Agency programs.

Sometimes I Sit And Think About The Troubles I Face...

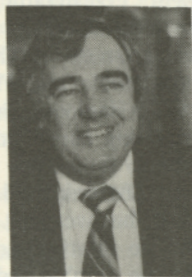
Editor's Note: These poems were written by John, a student at John G. Richards School.

Sometimes I sit and think about
the troubles I face day in and day out
The problems of living and everyday life
get tougher and tougher
But I take them in stride
I should be grateful for the things
I have got
All the little things I have
that mean a lot.
Yes, I guess I'm lucky, I really am
When I think of all the hungry people
in distant lands
For them life keeps getting harder and harder
some of the small children
don't even know their fathers
It really is sad, it makes me feel as if I could cry
to know about all the children that will
starve and will die
But my own life is all I'm worried about
dealing with my own problems day in and day out.

THE FIRST TIME I MET YOU

The first time I met you
I was looking in the sky
The sun shone so brightly
As the thunder clouds rolled by.
The sea began to shiver and the wind began to moan
As I watched you slowly fly away
And leave me all alone
I felt the urge to follow you but
My spirit wasn't really all that strong
No, It really wasn't strong.

**PROFILE: Judge James Craven,
Judge Robert R. Mallard,
Charleston County Family Court**



Craven



Mallard

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Profile* is a new feature of the *Youth Advocate*. It will spotlight personalities who have had an impact in youth corrections. This month *Profile* will feature Judge James Craven and Associate Judge Robert R. Mallard of the Charleston County Family Court.

Judge Craven, who studied for the bar without attending law school (he was in the last class — 1960 — allowed to do that), was a practicing attorney in Charleston for 10 years. He is a former member of the S. C. House of Representatives, assistant county attorney and was appointed to the bench in 1970. He replaced retiring Judge C. B. Pearce that same year.

Judge Mallard graduated from the University of South Carolina Law School in 1962. He also had legal experience with the county attorney's office prior to his appointment in 1970. Judge Mallard is serving as juvenile judge this fiscal year. Next year it will be rotated to another judge, as the Family Court also handles domestic matters.

PROFILE: What is the biggest problem facing juvenile justice today?

CRAVEN: Family Courts should be available to every county in the state. There should be a statewide Family Court system or the Family Courts should be administered by the district courts, if this system is adopted.

PROFILE: How long does it take to hear a case in your court?

MALLARD: From arrest to the adjudicatory hearing is about 10 to 15 days. We have a third judge, Richard E. Fields, who was appointed last July. With one judge just handling juvenile offenses, we've knocked the docket down that far.

PROFILE: Then you hear juvenile cases every day?

MALLARD: Oh, yes. We have a unique system that helps us a lot. We have a detention center, and the first cases heard every morning are those children that have either come, or been returned to, the center. We want to get them out of there as quickly as possible.

PROFILE: What about the law? Do we need more juvenile laws on the books?

CRAVEN: I don't think so. There might be an occasional loose end you wish to tie up, but the law is pretty good as it is. I believe, that if it is conscientiously applied, it will protect the rights of children.

PROFILE: What's the hardest thing about being a judge?

CRAVEN: Learning to divorce yourself from your cases. Often there are no solutions. You do the best you can with what you have.

MALLARD: I'd agree with that. You can really feel it for some of these unfortunate children

PROFILE: How many cases do you hear a year?

CRAVEN: We each hear between two and three thousand cases a year. Mine was 2,638. Judge Fields, who didn't come on until July, heard better than 750. And Judge Mallard topped everybody with 3,533.

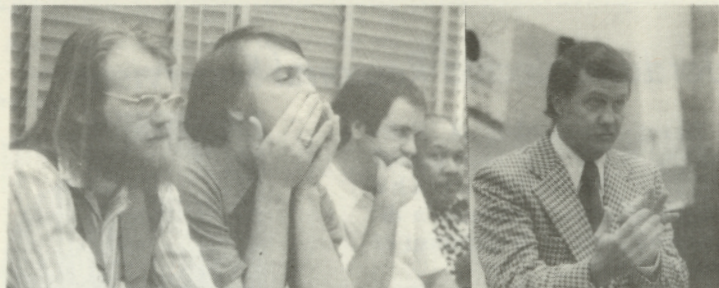
MALLARD: That included, of course, not only juvenile hearings but divorces, adoptions, annulments, separations and all other civil and domestic matters we were involved in.

PROFILE: Is juvenile crime increasing?

CRAVEN: Yes, but no faster than adult crime.

Around Campus...

Andrew Rutkowski, Supervisor of Security, Columbia, had an article, "Detention of Juveniles," published in the November-December issue of *Carolina Law*, which was subsequently excerpted and appeared in the *Columbia Record*... attending the signing of the historic agreement in Charleston last month with the Family Court were new Regional Supervisor David Jordan of the Charleston Youth Bureau and Marshall Rollins, Project Administrator... Camille G. Graham, Supervisor of Units, ICU, spoke at the Florence Kiwanis Club Jan. 9 on the function of Intensive Care Units... Chaplain Yu Fong Chong of John G. Richards School talked with parishioners of Westminster Presbyterian Church about the rehabilitation work done at the school Jan. 10... Dr. Gene F. Starr, Reception and Evaluation Center, appeared twice on Channel 12, North Augusta, in December about children in trouble and the rights of parents... Also appearing on the same program was the Rev. Al Brodie, R&E... The Rev. Horace Youngblood, Supervisor of Chaplains, spoke to USC students about the Agency... Among those institutions asking for tours of the farm this spring are St. Andrews Baptist Church Kindergarten, Pineridge Kindergarten University Union Nursery, Claude A. Taylor Kindergarten, Hendley Homes Pre-School and Riverland Hills Baptist Church Kindergarten... When the new group home opened in Greenville Jan. 26, among those attending were Walter Waddell, Regional Supervisor, Spartanburg Youth Bureau.



Management Seminar

The South Carolina Department of Youth Services conducted a three-day seminar on effective communications with George W. Kinnamon (right) of Creative Development Seminars,

Fort Mill. Interest in the presentation is shown by three of the middle and top management participants in the left photograph.

Group Home (Continued)

Board members attending, in addition to Mrs. Sylvester and Mitchell, included E. Perry Palmer, Columbia; Mrs. Lula Harper, Graniteville; John Henry, Charleston; and the Rev. Horace B. Youngblood, Columbia.

The Greenville Group Home can provide shelter for 12 young men. It opened three months ago. Substantial funds for its development were given by the Greenville County Council and the Junior League. The operation of the home is supervised by the Youth Bureau. William M. Stanton is director.

PROFILE: What's the solution?

CRAVEN: Speedier trials are one of the answers, in my opinion. And we're beginning to do that with our third judge.

PROFILE: Is the Department of Youth Services helpful to you?

CRAVEN: Yes. I think of the agency as being composed of real professionals that are willing to do everything possible for children in trouble.

PROFILE: What, in your opinion, does it take to be a good Family Court judge?

CRAVEN: Some experience in the juvenile court system and a great deal of experience in domestic cases.

MALLARD: The best training for this job, really, is to be a parent.